

## Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00

LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 L-03 AGR-05 TAR-01 /059 W

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R 151743Z JUL 75

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9286

INFL ALL EC CAPITALS 905

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE EC BRUSSELS 6421

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EEC

SUBJECT: EC COMMISSION ALLOWS LIMITED RELIEF TO IRISH FOOTWEAR  
INDUSTRY

REF DUBLIN 1232

1. EC COMMISSION OFFICIALS TOLD US THAT ON JULY 10 THE COMMISSION,  
IN RESPONSE TO A FORMAL APPLICATION OF THE IRISH GOVERNMENT  
UNDER ARTICLE 135 OF THE TREATY OF ACCESSION, DECIDED TO ALLOW  
IRELAND TO TAKE RATHER  
LIMITED PROTECTIVE MEASURES AGAINST SHOE IMPORTS (SEE REFTEL).  
THE COMISSION DECISION IS THAT IRELAND MAY MAINTAIN ITS PRE-  
JULY 1, 1975 DUTY OF 10 PERCENT ON HIGH-QUALITY LEATHER SHOES (BTN 64  
.02A)  
FROM THE  
UK UNTIL JANUARY 1, 1976. UNDER THE ANGLO-IRISH AGREEMENT OF  
1965 THE DUTY WAS TO HAVE DROPPED TO 5 PERCENT ON JULY 1.

2. THE COMMISSION WILL REVIEW THE SITUATION IN NOVEMBER IN THE  
LIGHT OF A REORGANIZATION PLAN OF THE IRISH FOOTWEAR INDUSTRY  
THAT THE IRISH GOVERNMENT IS TO PRESENT TO THE EC COMMISSION  
BY OCTOBER 1. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE IRISH SHOE INDUSTRY, WHICH  
WAS ESTABLISHED RATHER LATE, PRODUCED BEHIND SIGNIFICANT TARIFF  
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PROTECTION AND NOW FACES SERIOUS STRUCTURAL PROBLEMS.

3. A COMMISSION OFFICIAL EXPLAINED THAT UNDER ARTICLE 135 OF THE ACCESSION TREATY IT IS UP TO THE GOVERNMENT REQUESTING PROTECTION TO MAKE A "PRIMA FACIE" CASE THAT THE PROBLEMS THE INDUSTRY IS HAVING ARE LIKELY TO PERSIST AND THEREFORE PROTECTION IS NECESSARY. IT IS UP TO THE COMMISSION TO DETERMINE THE APPROPRIATE PROTECTIVE MEASURES, IF ANY, WHICH ARE TO BE APPLIED. ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCES, THE MEASURE CHOSEN BY THE COMMISSION HAS THE ADVANTAGE OF BEING LIMITED TO ONE COUNTRY, THE UK, WHICH IS THE SOURCE OF MOST IRISH SHOE IMPORTS, AND MERELY SLOWS DOWN THE RATE OF TARIFF REDUCTIONS. THE COMMISSION AVOIDED MEASURES THAT MIGHT HAVE WIDER EFFECTS WITHIN THE EC OR ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND DISMISSED THE ALTERNATIVE OF IMPORT QUOTAS. GREENWALD

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOOTWEAR, TARIFFS, IMPORT QUOTAS, FOREIGN TRADE, TRADE CONTROLS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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